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the 16th round

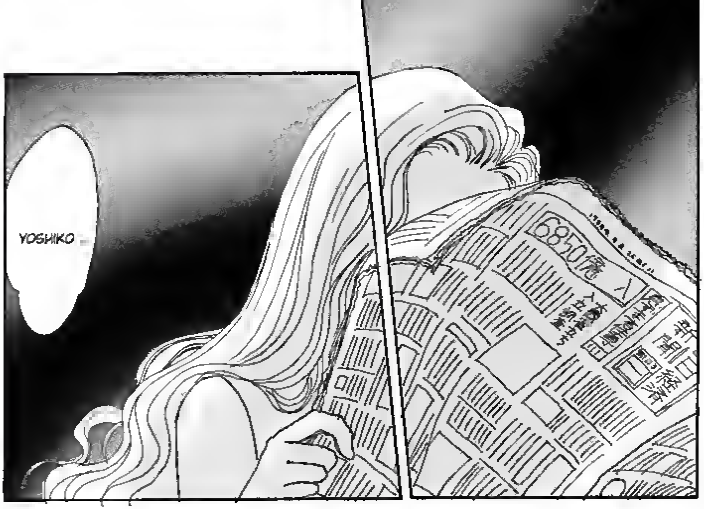
the 16th round

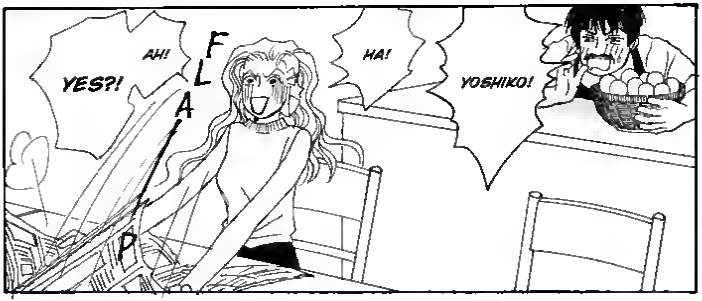
WALKING NAGASAWA HOME AND HOLDING HER ARM LIKE THAT...
I FELT LIKE A CLERK IN A DEPARTMENT STORE, BRINGING A SHOPLIFTING CHILD TO THE SECURITY OFFICE...
LAST NIGHT...
MY ARM... IT HURTS...
NATSUKI...
AH!

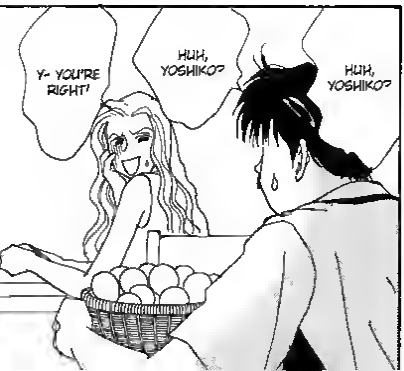
AH...
AAH...
SORRY...
HEEHEE!
HEY! ♡
WHAT?!
HA HA HA
I WAS JUST THINKING... AT LEAST YOU'LL DO THIS MUCH FOR ME ♡
SINCE I'M DRUNK' ♡
SFX: GULP
NAGA-SAWA-!
AND SINCE YOU'RE LEAVING...
THIS IS JUST FINE, RIGHT?

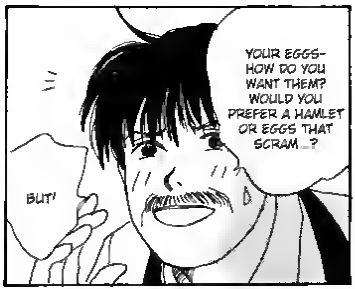
SHIT!
NAGABAWA...
NOW IT'S MY TURN TO CRY...
IT'S REALLY TOO LATE...
FOR HER TO TRY AND SEDUCE ME!
I JUST SAID GOODBYE TO HER AND CAME BACK HOME
AND ON TOP OF THAT, I FORGOT TO GIVE HER THE PRESENT.

WILL I REALLY FIND SUCCESS IN THE STATES?!
AAAH, I SLEPT WELL...
HELLO ♡
I THOUGHT OF YOU. LOOK AT THESE BALLOONS ♡
HA HA HA
WHAT'S YOU FAVORITE COLOR, KATSUYUKI?
HA HA HA
SORRY FOR INTRUDING...
I STAYED AT DISNEY-LAND LATE LAST NIGHT. I WAS SO TIRED...
Too tired to get out my own futon

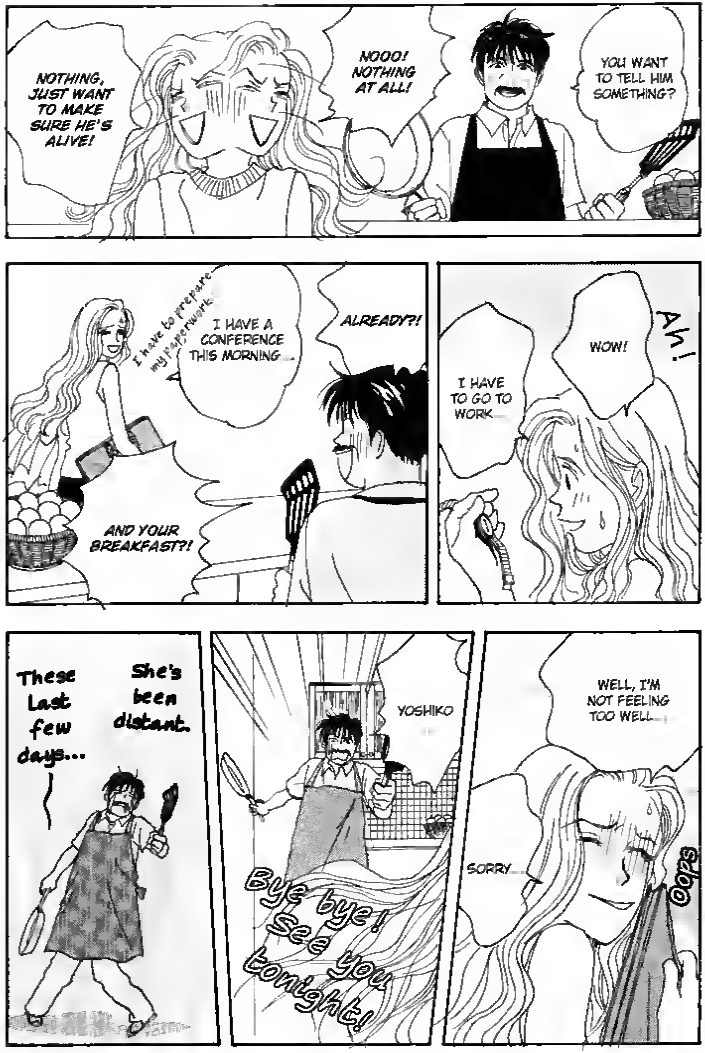

YOSHIKO...


AH!
YES?!
F
A
L
L
P
HA!
YOSHIKO!


Y- YOU'RE RIGHT!
HUH, YOSHIKO?
HUH, YOSHIKO?

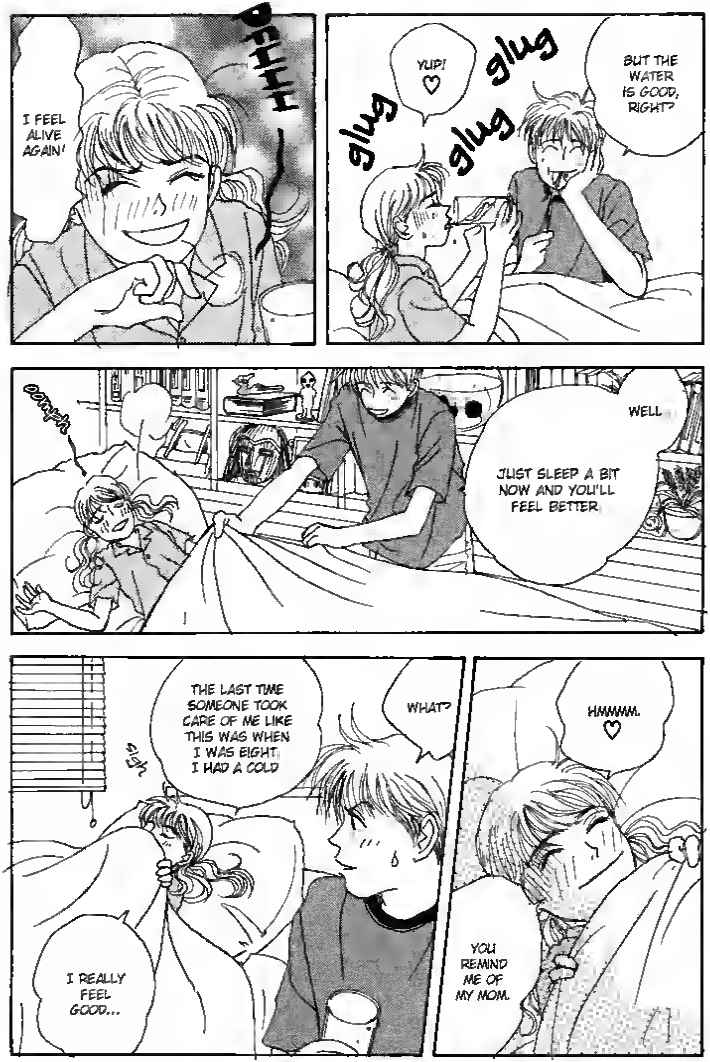

YOUR EGGS- HOW DO YOU WANT THEM? WOULD YOU PREFER A HAMLET OR EGGS THAT SCRAM...?
BUT!

YOU'VE WORKED SO HARD THESE LAST FEW DAYS AND YOU GO OUT TOO MUCH WITH YOUR COWORKERS...
OOOH!
YOU'RE RUINING YOUR HEALTH...
I DRANK A BIT TOO MUCH LAST NIGHT...
haha
I HAVE A HANG-OVER...
Whaa?
I USED TO WORK EVEN HARDER AND DRINK EVEN MORE...
haha
NO, DON'T WORRY... I'M TOUGH ♡
HAHA.
HE'S STILL SLEEPING...
SCHOOL'S OUT FOR THE SUMMER.
AH...
BY THE WAY, KATSUYUKI...
IS HE AWAKE YET?


NOTHING, JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE HE'S ALIVE!
NOOO! NOTHING AT ALL!
YOU WANT TO TELL HIM SOMETHING?
I have to prepare my paperwork.
I HAVE A CONFERENCE THIS MORNING...
ALREADY?!
AND YOUR BREAKFAST?!
Ah!
WOW!
I HAVE TO GO TO WORK...
These last few days...
She's been distant.
YOSHIKO
Bye bye! See you tonight!
WELL, I'M NOT FEELING TOO WELL...
SORRY...
Oops

BONK
AAAAAH-
SORRY, DAD
You frightened me.
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR SITTING THERE MOPING
WHERE ITS DARK AND NOBODY CAN SEE YOU
AMY HAS A TERRIBLE HANGOVER TODAY
BAM
OH, NO.
HMM, CLOVER LEAVES, CLOVER LEAVES
Ah! There're some.
HA HA HA
SOB
LEAVE IT, HARU. I'LL COOK BREAKFAST
I'M BRINGING HER CLOVER LEAVES AND MOUNTAIN SPRING WATER.
STEP STEP STEP

HEADACHE!
GODDAMN AMY...
I'D LIKE SOMEONE TO RIP MY HEAD OFF!
IT HURTS SO MUCH.
TAKE THIS.
SOME CLOVER LEAVES,
AND SPRING WATER FROM THE MOUNTAIN.
BLEARGH!
Fresh
Fresh
IT'S BITTER!!
CHEW ON THEM JUST LIKE THIS, AND THEN TAKE A DRINK
IT'S GOOD FOR HANGOVERS...
CLOVER LEAVES?!
Here.


I FEEL ALIVE AGAIN!
PFFFH
YUP! ♡
glug glug glug
BUT THE WATER IS GOOD, RIGHT?
WELL...
JUST SLEEP A BIT NOW AND YOU'LL FEEL BETTER.
WHINE
WHAT?
THE LAST TIME SOMEONE TOOK CARE OF ME LIKE THIS WAS WHEN I WAS EIGHT. I HAD A COLD
SIGH
I REALLY FEEL GOOD...
HMMMM. ♡
YOU REMIND ME OF MY MOM.

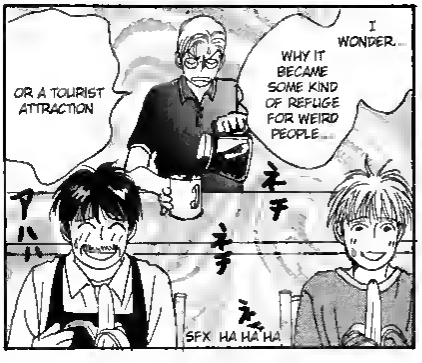
HAHAHA
YEAH! A CHILD WHO WOULD OTHERWISE BE WHITE AS A SHEET...
BECAUSE SHE'S HUNG OVER...
HAHAHA
HUH?
I FEEL LIKE A KID AGAIN. ♡
haha ♡
SINCE YOU'RE NICE ENOUGH TO FORGET ABOUT IT...
WELL... I HAVE NO REGRETS...
I LIED TO YOU...
I'M SORRY, HARU...
Yes...
I'LL NEVER DO SOMETHING IMPULSIVE LIKE THAT AGAIN EITHER...
I PROMISE NEVER TO DO IT AGAIN...
SO... CAN I STAY HERE A BIT LONGER?

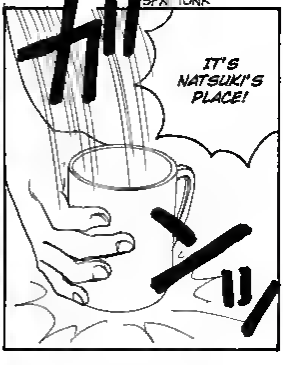
IF YOU WANT...
BUT, YOU KNOW...
Huh!
YOUR FATHER... HE'D LIKE TO MAKE PEACE WITH YOU
HUH?
THAT'S WHY YOU HAVE TO MEET HIM, AND HAVE A SERIOUS DISCUSS-
HACK! Cough Cough
I HAVE A SUDDEN URGE TO THROW UP!
AMY!!
Cough Cough I'm hot!
LIAR!
HA HA HA

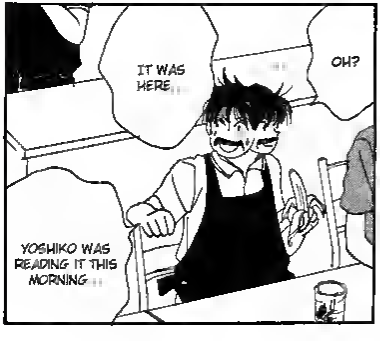
HA
HA
HA
OR MAYBE SHE JUST WANTS TO BE TREATED LIKE ONE
Again now
TRUE SHE IS THE HEAD OF A BIG COMPANY...
BUT SHE'S STILL A CHILD...
IN THAT CASE, SHE SHOULD GO TO HER FATHER...
Forgive him.
SHE WANTS YOU TO TAKE CARE OF HER...
HARU, AND YOU, SOSUKE...
munch
munch
HA
HA
HA
I UNDERSTAND THAT SHE'S FELT SAD...
SINCE HER MOTHER LEFT
BUT SHE'S GOING OVERBOARD BY BLAMING IT ON HIM.

SHE'S NOT ONE OF THOSE KIDS WHO THINKS THEIR PARENTS ARE PERFECT.
YEAH, BUT BEING ANGRY AT HIM IS HER WAY OF COPING
WHEN SHE'S AT WORK, SHE SHOWS MORE MATURITY THAN MOST OF THE ADULTS AROUND HER.
SHE NEEDS A PLACE WHERE SHE CAN STILL BE A CHILD...
YOU'RE WEARING OUT YOUR WELCOME HERE...
AH,
CAN I HAVE MORE, PLEASE? ♡
HAHAHAHA
ME TOO. I'VE ALSO SUFFERED SINCE I WAS YOUNG. IN CHINA.
AND NOW, I MAKE THE MOST OF MY LIFE!

DON'T JUST FREELOAD OFF OF US! HURRY UP AND GO BACK TO YOUR OWN HOME!
Oh!
WE'RE NOT RUNNING A CHARITY HERE!


I WONDER...
WHY IT BECAME SOME KIND OF REFUGE FOR WEIRD PEOPLE...
OR A TOURIST ATTRACTION
SFX: HA HA HA

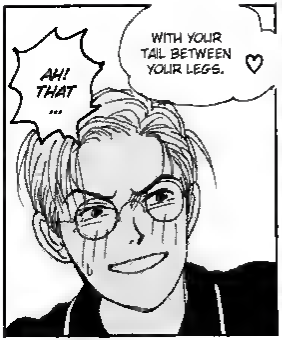

SFX: TONK
IT'S NATSUKI'S PLACE!

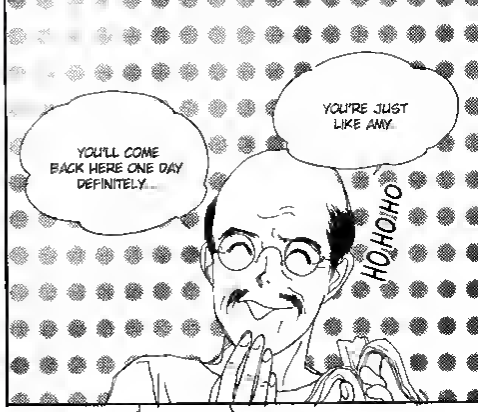

IT WAS HERE...
OH?
YOSHIKO WAS READING IT THIS MORNING...

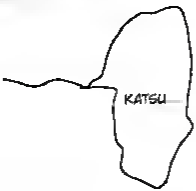
NEWS-PAPER?

AH!
IF THAT'S A PROBLEM, I'LL FIND ONE FOR YOU WHEN I GO OUT I'M GOING TO PICK HERBS...
SHE MUST HAVE TAKEN IT WITH HER...
DRAT!
Not here!
A NEWSPAPER FROM A GARBAGE CAN?
YOU THINK I'LL READ THAT?!
AT THIS HOUR, THERE'RE A LOT IN THE GARBAGE CANS IT'LL BE FREE!
OK!!
PING PING PING
KEIZAI SHIMBUN AND THE NEW YORK TIMES...
AND I WANT MY CHANGE!
HERE! BUY ME ONE AT THE NEWSSTAND
FLICK

HE'S KIND TO HIS BROTHER...
Hmm...
I'll be back!
SEE YOU SOON!
Well...
I'LL GO WITH YOU. I NEED TO EMPTY THE TRASH CAN...
Ah...
KATSU, YOU'RE STILL A CHILD, YOU KNOW..
HA HA HA
Are you still here, old man?
WHAT?
HA HA HA
WHO SAID IT WAS EXILE? I'M GOING TO STUDY!
IT'S ALL THE SAME...
ACTING THE WAY YOU DO...
Mh, munch, crunch
GOING INTO EXILE IN THE STATES...
WHAT—?!


AH! THAT ...
WITH YOUR TAIL BETWEEN YOUR LEGS.


YOU'LL COME BACK HERE ONE DAY DEFINITELY...
YOU'RE JUST LIKE AMY.
HO,HO,HO


KATSU...

NO WAY, NEVER...!

AAH?!

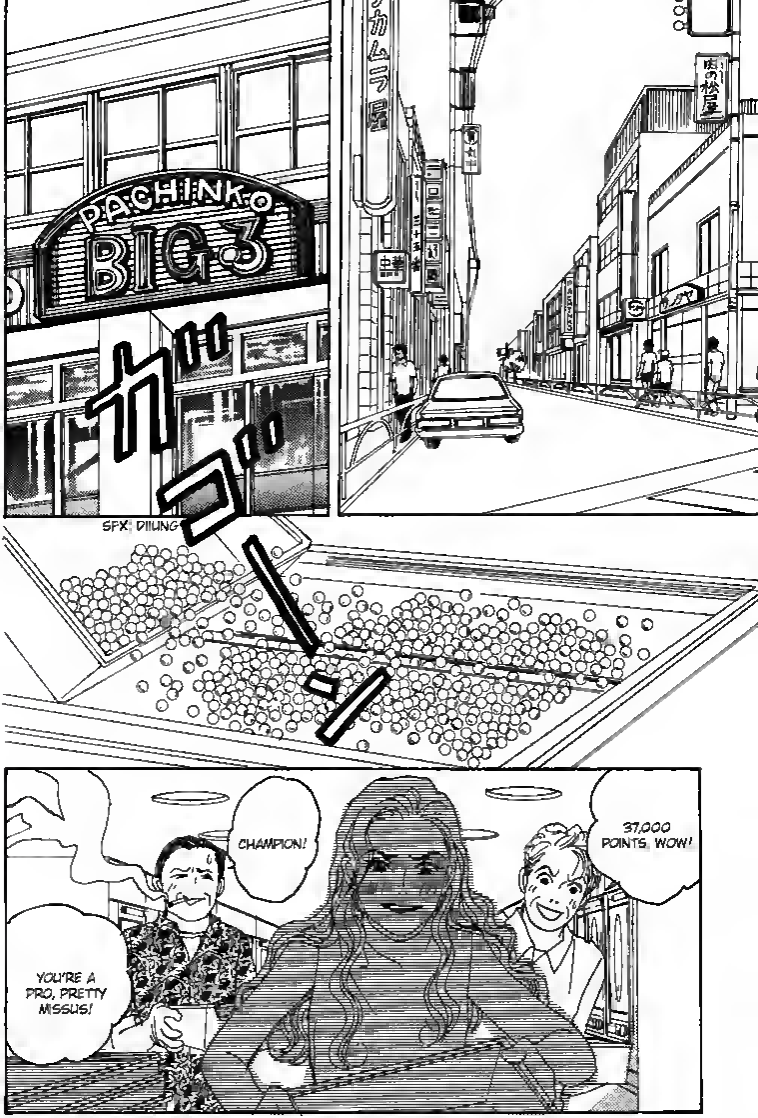
YOU HAVE A LETTER.
I WONDER WHO IT'S FROM...

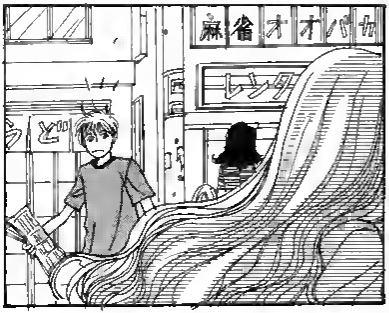
DID YOU ENTER ONE OF THEIR CONTESTS?
MORISAKI CANDY STORE?
MORISAKI
Candy Store

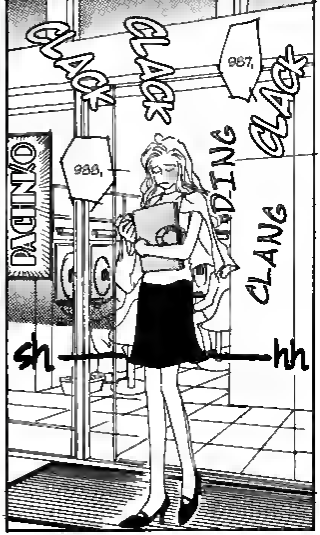
WHAT?
SFX: GRAB
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE YOUR WIFE WORKS!?
WHY'D HE CHOOSE OUR HOUSE...
REALLY...!
GO DIE! DROP OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH!
YOU MEAN SHE DOESN'T WORK IN THE STEEL INDUSTRY!?
BUT!
HUH...?
CERTIFICATE OF TERMINATION...?!
CERTIFICATE OF TERMINATION
Yoshiko Natsuki

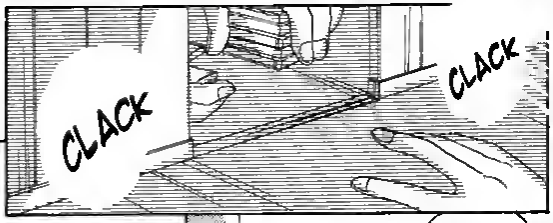
SIGNED YOSHIKO NATSUKI!
I CERTIFY THAT AS OF JULY 10
TERMINATION?!
I HAVE CHOSEN TO TERMINATE MY EMPLOYMENT WITH MORISAKI CANDY STORE
NATSU?
WHAT?
SHE NEVER SAID A THING ABOUT IT!
MOM QUIT HER JOB!
SFX: BEEP

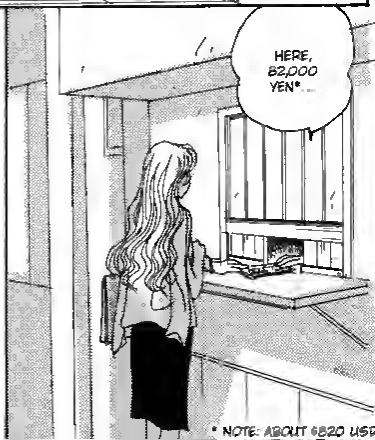
Huh?
MAY I SPEAK TO MRS NATSUKI?
THIS IS SAKAMOTO, FROM SN IMPORT-EXPORT...
CLACK
This is Morisaki Candy Store's Research and Development department
Ah...
I'm sorry. Yoshiko Natsuki has resigned.
It was about two weeks ago on July 10th...
NO WAY!
I can transfer your call to...
KATSU, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOSHIKO?!
WHY?!
ISN'T SHE AT HER OFFICE?


PACHINKO
BIG 3
カコ
SFX: DIIUNG
CHAMPION!
37,000 POINTS, WOW!
YOU'RE A PRO, PRETTY MISSUS!









* NOTE: ABOUT $820 USD.

~ End of the 16th Round ~

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